



# USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces  
Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet

7958 Blandy Road • Norfolk, VA 23551-2492 • (757) 836-1650 • Fax (757) 836-1355



**CDR Jeffrey S. Curren**  
**Commanding Officer**

Commander Curren was born and raised in Des Plaines, Illinois and graduated from Maine West High School. He attended the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating in 1983 with a Bachelor's Degree in Systems Engineering.

Following temporary

assignment to SUBGRU SEVEN in Yokosuka, Japan, he completed nuclear engineering training and basic submarine school in May 1985. His first operational assignment was in USS SPADEFISH (SSN 668), where he served as Reactor Control Assistant and Damage Control Assistant, and made deployments to the North Atlantic and Mediterranean Seas.

In August of 1988 he was assigned as Flag Lieutenant to Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet. In April 1991 he reported as Engineer Officer, USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731) (GOLD), making 5 strategic deterrent patrols.

In April 1994 Commander Curren transferred to Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, serving as a junior member on the Nuclear Propulsion Examination Board. After conducting 65 examinations on submarines, aircraft carriers, cruisers and shore facilities, he reported to USS JACKSONVILLE (SSN 699) as Executive Officer. Aboard USS JACKSONVILLE, he completed a Mediterranean deployment where the ship was recognized as a Battle Group Top Performer and was awarded the Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet "Hook'em Award" for Undersea Warfare excellence.

In July 1998 Commander Curren was assigned to U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska. There he served as Executive Assistant to the Director, Plans and Policy (J5) and the Commander in Chief, U.S. Strategic Command. While in Omaha, he earned a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Oklahoma.

Commander Curren's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (five awards), and Navy Achievement Medal.

## ***Proud City, Proud Submarine***

USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720) is the fourth American warship named for the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The first was a Union gunboat during the Civil War while the next two were armored cruisers in the first and second World Wars. The first Pittsburgh, a sidewheel, ironclad gunboat, gave continued service in the lengthy series of operations which wrested control of the lower Mississippi from the Confederacy.

The second Pittsburgh (Armored Cruiser 4) had a plane land and take off from a platform constructed on her afterdeck, thus opening the era of naval aviation during the winter of 1910-1911. Cooperating with the British in World War I, she scouted German raiders and acted as a powerful deterrent against their penetration of the eastern Pacific.

The third Pittsburgh (CA72) was commissioned 10 October 1944. She received two battle stars for World War II service.

Technology has dramatically changed the size and capabilities of Naval warships since the original Pittsburgh steamed the Mississippi in 1863. The mission of Pittsburgh (SSN 720), however, has not significantly changed: to protect the Naval interest of the United States of America.

## ***Facts and Figures***

- **Builders:** Newport News Shipbuilding Co.; General Dynamics Electric Boat Division
- **Powerplant:** One nuclear reactor, one shaft
- **Length:** 360 feet (109.73 meters)
- **Beam:** 33 feet (10.06 meters)
- **Displacement:** Approx. 6,900 tons (7010.73 metric tons) submerged
- **Speed:** 20+ knots (23+ miles per hour; 36.8+ KPH)
- **Crew:** 13 officers, 121 enlisted
- **Armament:** Tomahawk cruise missiles, VLS tubes (719 and later), MK48 torpedoes, four torpedo tubes